

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AND SERVICES POLICIES

QUALITY OF LIFE STATEMENT

We want a proactive public process structured by the historic village areas. This process will seek community input and include open public involvement for envisioning decision-making and implementation. It will empower the community to take responsibility for and help shape the character of the area.

To foster a healthy community, we want services, programs, and educational and natural resources that collaborate to invest in all individuals. We want opportunities to learn, access to health and social care, and public and private services that contribute to the well being of the community.

POLICY 39

The Southwest Area Plan will be evaluated by the County planning staff and the Citizen Steering Committee after adoption to determine its effectiveness in providing comprehensive planning for the southwest area and to determine what dating or amending is necessary.

ACTIONS:

- a) Involve South Valley neighborhood associations and representatives from the seniors, youths, recreation, community groups, developers, landowners, and others in the plan evaluation.
- b) Establish a committee to address historic conservation in the built environment. This committee shall be involved in the preparation and assistance of the Isleta Boulevard Design Overlay Zone or corridor plan. Allow the committee's input in the nomination process when sites are proposed for State and/or National Historic Register.
- c) Establish a committee to address agriculture conservation. This committee shall be involved in developing policies and programs to preserve agricultural lands, as well as prepare and assist the completion of the Land Evaluation and Site Assessment.
- d) Research and examine the possibility of a private sector and/or local community development corporation to implement a local transit system to feed into Sun Tran routes within the South Valley.
- e) Establish a committee to address transportation issues, which shall include, but not limited to trails, public transit and road projects.
- f) Create a committee consisting of community members and landowners to investigate the feasibility of establishing transfer development rights to protect the escarpment and other Open Space and agricultural lands.

"Fairness requires expanding the opportunities for betterment that are available to those communities most in need of them. Fairness requires creating more choices for those who have few. Fairness requires that we reduce inequalities, that we narrow the gap opened by disparities in the distribution of resources."

Author unknown. Planning and Community Equity

POLICY 40

Public and private sectors shall work together to support innovative programs that promote ownership of affordable housing.

ACTIONS:

- a) Require all new development and renovation to implement safety features such as lighting, traffic calming, and locating children's play areas away from busy streets.
- b) Distribute affordable housing equally throughout the County.
- c) Incorporate innovative design for all new public housing.

POLICY 41

Public and private sectors shall work together to aid innovative programs that promote improved community services.

ACTIONS:

- a) Pursue acquisition and development of park sites near the elementary, middle and high schools.
- b) Integrate alternative programs (such as job skills, mentor programs, and other programs for at risk youth) into the public and private sectors, as well as non-profit corporations.
- c) Promote community policing as an alternative to combat crime within neighborhoods. Neighborhood associations and crime watch programs shall be promoted.
- d) Support location of police substations in areas of need, as articulated by the community.

POLICY 42

The County and City shall place delivery and phasing of services to existing communities prior to providing infrastructure to new development.

ACTIONS:

- a) Provide street and transit amenities to the existing historic village centers and the community. These amenities shall provide and improve pedestrian access, and respect the scale and character of the area.
- b) Promote economic development within existing historic village centers and the community. Allow businesses of appropriate scale and intensity to develop in and adjacent to village centers.
- c) Continue efforts in providing sewer systems or alternative systems to existing communities and to promote better environmental conditions, while not exceeding the densities as identified on Map 2.

POLICY 43

The County and City shall work together to adjust boundaries within the plan area in order to facilitate efficient delivery of emergency services and to provide for the basic health, safety, and general welfare of the community.

Land Use Committees

POLICY 44

Bernalillo County shall support and help form committees and task forces to inform and mobilize residents about important community issues and implement actions outlaid in this document and past SWAP documents.

ACTION:

- a) A standing agricultural committee shall pursue agricultural preservation techniques. These efforts could include the creation of an agricultural land trust, tool, machinery and labor lending, marketing South Valley products, education of residents through printed materials and workshops, demonstration projects and agricultural fairs.
- b) A standing acequia committee shall be formed to, identify historic ditches and acequias, educate the public through printed materials and workshops, inventory ditch and acequia conditions and coordinate with other organizations in Bernalillo County that are working on ditch and acequia preservation.